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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/936,344	09/24/1997	PAUL MICHAEL EMBREE	080398.P115	9648

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EXAMINER

MICHALSKI, JUSTIN I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2644

DATE MAILED: 06/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/936,344

Applicant(s)

EMBREE ET AL.

Examiner

Justin Michalski

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4 and 6-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4 and 6-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 15 July 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue page 6, lines 7-8 that Chen and Kojiro do not suggest or render obvious a plurality of memory banks having two memory banks accessible to first and second processors for operations selected from the group comprising read and write operations. This is not persuasive, as stated in the previous rejection Chen discloses first and second processors (10, 11), read and write operations (Col. 11, lines 18-34), and a plurality of memory banks having two memory banks accessible to first and second processors (12). ✓

The Applicants further argue page 6, lines 9-10 the Chan and Kojiro do not disclose storing subsets of audio data in the memory banks and the subsets corresponding to different groups of audio channels. This is not persuasive as stated in the previous rejection Kojiro is used to teach storing subsets of audio data in memory banks (N-sets of local banks) corresponding to different channels (Channel setting information CH1-CHm).

The Applicants further argues, page 6, lines 13-14 and page 6, line 29 through page 7, there is no motivation to combine Chen and Kojiro. The Office respectively disagrees since the previous rejection states, "Since Kojiro has disclose using subsets corresponding to different groups of audio channels, it would have been obvious to combine using subsets which correspond to different groups of audio channels of Kojiro

with the memory device of Chen because it would eliminate need for revision of channels setting information relating to an audio system" (page 3, lines 12-16).

The Applicants further argues page 6, lines 21-23 that Kojiro does not disclose memory banks storing subsets corresponding to different groups of audio channels or two processors. This is not persuasive as Kojiro discloses N-Sets of channel setting information stored in N-sets of local banks (see previous rejection and constitution). Chen is used to teach two processors (11 and 12).

2. The following rejection stands as stated in the previous rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2-4 and 6-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Kojiro.

Chen discloses a system having a first and second buses for processing real time audio data from a plurality of audio channels, the system comprising: a first processor (10) and a second processor (11) coupled to the first and second buses (13 to 16), respectively', a plurality of memory banks of semiconductor memory devices coupled to the first and second buses for storing the data (12), the plurality of memory

banks being accessible to the first and second processors for operating selected from the group comprising read and write operations (col. 11, lines 18 to 34); the first processor perform a read operation on a first memory bank and the second processor performs a write operation on a second memory bank (col. 5, lines 11 to 19); and each section includes of the memory's banks in an interleaved arrangement (coil. 11, lines 20 to 23). Chen does not disclose the plurality of memory banks storing subsets of data, the subsets corresponding to different groups of channels, and a plurality of selectors coupled to the first and second buses to select the memory banks for access by one of the first and second processors.

Kojiro (JP 6-232664) discloses a semiconductor memory device which is comprised of storing subsets of data (N-sets of local banks), wherein the subsets corresponding to different groups of channels (CH1-CHm); a plurality of selectors which include a plurality of address multiplexers and data transceivers (2); storing comprises one of the subsets of data in one of the memory banks (see under constitution; and the memory device is being used for audio data (under constitution, it is stated that the memory banks store subsets corresponding to different groups of audio channels). Since Kojiro has disclose using subsets corresponding to different groups of audio channels, it would have been obvious to combine using subsets which correspond to different groups of audio channels of Kojiro with the memory device of Chen because it would eliminate need for revision of channels setting information relating to an audio system.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin Michalski whose telephone number is (571)272-7524. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on (571)272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JIM



SINH TRAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER